जाएगी? मैं यह भी पूछना चाहूंगी कि आपने यह जो उत्तर दिया है कि no record of number of IITians leaving the country is being maintained Centrally. तो क्या अपनी प्रतिभा को अपने देश में लगाने के लिए रिकार्ड रखने की कोशिश की जाएगी?

श्री अर्जुन सिंह: सभापति जी, मैंने अभी निवेदन किया है कि आज के संदर्भ में हम यह मानकर नहीं चल सकते कि जो लोग बाहर जा रहे हैं, उससे देश को नुकसान हो रहा है बल्कि अब तो काफी ऐसा भी नजर आता है कि जो यहां से ट्रेनिंग लेकर बाहर जाकर अपनी स्थिति बनाते हैं, उसका भी देश को सीधे लाभ मिलता है। इसलिए मैं नहीं समझता कि इन पर किसी प्रकार का प्रतिबंध लगाया जाए।

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडे: जो पद खाली पड़े हैं, उनको भरने के लिए, प्रोफेसर्स रखने के लिए, क्या कोई व्यवस्था की जाएगी?

श्री अर्जुन सिंह: पदों को भरने की व्यवस्था इससे भिन्न है, वह अपनी जगह है। लेकिन जो आवश्यकता है, उसको पूरा करने की कोशिश करेंगे। यह जो प्रश्न पदों का आया है, यह उसमें कहीं नहीं है।

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडे: विद्यार्थी खुद कहते हैं कि हम जाना चाहते हैं लेकिन बुलाया नहीं जाता।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, हो गया, अब छोड़िए।

SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the hon. Minister enlighten us as to what is the average cost per student, from the moment he joins the IIT till the time he passes out that the country incurs on him; and whether a framework will be set up that, at least, that much that is spent on him he returns to this country in some form?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Sir, the whole concept has changed and in that changed concept I have made the submission, and I think in the overall balance of consideration trying to restrain our young men from going abroad would not be ultimately in the interest of the country.

Statutory authority for private TV channels

*82. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:†
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a separate statutory

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Prof. Alka Balram Kshatriya.

authority for regulating the functioning of private television channels in the wake of spurt in their number;

(b) whether TRAI has decided to come out with separate national policies on broadcasting and distribution of television channels and FM radio;

(c) if so, whether Government have taken the view of the media experts and others in this regard; and

(d) if so, whether any concrete proposal in this regard has been worked out?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The Government has notified Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) as broadcast regulator under TRAI Act, 1997.

(b) to (d) The Government had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Amit Mitra, Secretary-General, FICCI, to make recommendations for F.M. Radio broadcasting for Phase-II. The Committee's Report, which was submitted in November, 2003, has been referred to TRAI for its recommendations. TRAI has, in the month of April, 2004, issued a consultation paper on "Licensing Issues relating to second phase of private F.M. Radio broadcasting". In addition, TRAI has issued a consultation paper on "Issues relating to broadcasting and distribution of T.V. channels" in the month of April, 2004 and initiated a consultation process. TRAI's recommendations are awaited.

प्रो॰ अलका क्षत्रिय: सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूंगी कि सरकार ने निजी एफ॰एम॰ रेडियो प्रसारण के दूसरे चरण के प्रसारण हेतु सिफारिशें करने के लिए, फिक्की के महासचिव डा॰ अमित मित्रा की अध्यक्षता में जो समिति गठित की थी, उसकी रिपोर्ट में क्या सिफारिशें हैं? वे सिफारिशें ट्राई के उस सुझाव के साथ कहां तक सहमत हैं?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Dr. Amit Mitra Committee's Report wanted the Government to allow a new regime to be introduced. It wanted new players to be permitted to come under the new regime. This Report is now under the consideration of TRAI. Since TRAI is looking at it, the Government would not like to anticipate the Report of the TRAI and would not like to express an opinion.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has asked the Indian Broadcasters Federation for its views on three subjects, namely, matters relating to mandatory the Conditional Access System; carriage of free-to-air channels and the rates of advertising; and, platform carriage including denial of signal to operators? If so, I would like to know what is the view expressed by broadcasters, and, to what extent, they agreed to the suggestions made by the Telecom Regulatory Authority.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, the TRAI had issued a consultation paper on matters relating to FM radio broadcasting. As hon. Member, a good friend, Shri Subbarami Reddy, has pointed out, it also issued a consultation paper in regard to CAS. The consultation paper lists only issues, raises problems; does not answer those problems. It is for the industry to respond and all these matters are under the consideration of TRAI.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, hon. Information and Broadcasting Minister would kindly appreciate that the current regulated TRAI is basically designed to regulate the carriage part of the television and broadcasting, including radio. Content does not fall within its jurisdiction, and in view of the proliferation of television channels and also radio, which is a good sign, people are not getting any adequate forum, like the Press Council, in the case of any grievance to raise their cause. The question to the hon. Minister, therefore, is: Does the present Government envisage the setting-up of any regulator akin to the Press Council or Media Council to oversee any complaint arising out of the content against the television and radio?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: I agree with my immediate predecessor. I have had the fortune of having too many predecessors in the last six years. However, I would like to say, what he said is absolutely correct. Content needs to be looked at. There are two ways of having the content looked at — one is to have a Media Council; another is to have a regulatbr as such. I think all these aspects are being examined. The point made is well taken.

प्रो॰ राम देव भंडारी: माननीय सभापति जी, आजकल टेलीविजन चैनल्स पर पॉलिटिकल लोगों का तरह-तरह से मजाक उड़ाया जाता है जिसे आप और हम सभी देखते हैं। आज कैरेक्टर एस्सेसिनेशन या इमेज खराब करने जैसी बातें टेलीविजन चैनल्स पर आ रही हैं और उन लोगों की कोई एक्काउंटेन्टेबिलिटी नहीं है और न ही उन के खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही होती है। चुनावों में मीडिया ट्रायल होता है और वे जिसको मन होता है, जिता देते हैं और जिसको मन होता है हरा देते हैं। इन टी॰वी॰ चैनल्स पर इस तरह से मनमानापन होता है और जो उनके मन में आता है दिखाते रहते हैं। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इस पर रोक लगाने की आवश्यकता है। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि आप किस प्रकार से रोक लगाएंगे कि इस तरह की बातें टी॰वी॰ चैनल्स पर न दिखाई जाएं?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: In my earlier reply, I did agree to the need for a regulator to look at the content. However, I would like to say clearly that any curbs would not be correct from the viewpoint of democratic philosophy. We must create people with greater wisdom than the media possess. The election results have amply demonstrated the wisdom of people of India.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: The Telecom Regulatory Authority is doing an *ad hoc* job by looking after these channels. I would like to ask the hon. Minister about the proposal to create separate authority for I&B Ministry for the television channels and radio. What is the status of that proposal? Secondly, doesn't the hon. Minister think that monitoring or appointing a regulator to monitor the content means policing the channels?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I agree with the Member that policing is bad. But, it is not monitoring content. If you have a Regulator, those who are aggrieved, can go and lodge a complaint. We are providing for a forum for arbitration, adjudication and regulation. It is not the same as policing.

SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Sir, now-a-days, the number of television channels is increasing, and, the regional channels are also coming up. The problem is that all over India, we are having the same service tax pattern. So, channels that are working throughout the country, like Hindi channels and English channels, have a national level area of coverage. The regional ones have a limited area of coverage. Sir, with regard to the service charges, we are charging the same, either for the regional channels, or, for the national channels. If you consider the turnover of these channels, only then the regional channels can survive? So, Sir, will the Hon. Minister consider that kind of service charge to be calculated according to the turnover of these television channels?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, I am afraid, that is a matter, which has to engage the attention of the Finance Ministry. I am not in a position to address that question.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सभापति महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगी कि पहले जिस समय जयपाल रेड्डी जी इंफोरमेशन एंड ब्रॉडकास्टिंग मिनिस्टर थे तो ब्रॉडकास्टिंग सेक्टर को रेगुलेट करने के लिए एक ब्रॉडकास्टिंग अथोरिटी बनाना चाह रहे थे, फिर उसके बाद कन्वेर्जेन्स का दौर आया और यह तय किया गया कि कन्वर्जेन्स कमीशन बना दिया जाय, जिसके अंदर कांटेंट भी रेगुलेट किया जाए, तो आज क्या वह ब्रॉडकास्टिंग अथोरिटी की बात सोच रहे हैं या कन्वर्जेन्स कमीशन की बात सोच रहे हैं? देश को मालूम नहीं पड़ रहा है कि वास्तव में ब्रॉडकास्टिंग सेक्टर को रेगुलेट करने के लिए सरकार कौनसी अथोरिटी लगना चाह रही है, एक सेपेरेट ब्रॉडकास्टिंग कौंसिल या ब्रॉडकास्टिंग अथोरिटी या कन्वर्जेन्स कमीशन बनाकर के ही वह कांटेंट रेगुलेट करना चाहेगी?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, there are two ways of going about it. One is through a separate Broadcasting Regulator, another through a Convergence Regulator. We are looking at both the proposals. We are also studying the emerging international pattern. After taking all these aspects into consideration, we will come forward with a proposal before the House.

NCERT text books in CBSE affiliated schools

*83. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NCERT published text books are studied exclusively by students in the CBSE affiliated schools;

(b) the subjects in which NCERT books are exclusively prescribed and since when;

(c) number of times revisions, if any, carried out in the originally published books on the respective subjects;

(d) the procedure laid down and followed in carrying out such revisions on each occasion;

(e) whether NCERT book(s) on any subject are presently undergoing revision;